

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 3-4, 10-13 and 16 are being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9 and 14 are being amended. No new matter is being added.

This amendment changes and deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Claims 1-2, 5-9 and 14-15 are pending in this application.

Drawings

Applicant respectfully requests that the amendment to the drawings filed on November 22, 2005 be approved and accepted by the Examiner, and that the Examiner indicate such in the next communication from the Patent Office.

Allowable subject matter

Applicant appreciates the indication that claims 3-5 and 7 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 1, from which claim 3 depended, has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Claim 2, from which claim 4 depended, has been amended to be in independent form, and to include the allowable subject matter of claim 4. Thus, independent claims 1 and 2 are in *prima facie* condition for allowance. Claims 5-8 ultimately depend from claim 1 and are thus likewise in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1, 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6, 910,955 to Wang et al. ("Wang"). Claims 2, 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Wang. These rejections are moot at least with respect to claims 1, 2, 6, 8 and 10 in light of the cancellation of claim 10, and the amendments to claims 1 and 2 to include subject matter indicated as allowable (claims 6 and

8 depend from claim 1). With respect to claim 9, applicant respectfully traverses for at least the following reasons.

The features of claim 13, which has been canceled, have now been incorporated into claim 9. Claim 13 was not subject to any rejection¹, and thus the subject matter of claim 13 is presumed to be allowable. Accordingly, claim 9, which now incorporates the subject matter of claim 13, is presumed to be allowable.

Moreover, Wang does not disclose the subject matter incorporated into claim 9 from claim 13 of “wherein the first and second rolling-contact bearings comprise linear shaft bearings that are coupled with one another by means of a connecting spindle that serves as the connecting bearing shell, extends in the bearing axial direction and is movable in a reciprocating manner.” Accordingly, claim 9 is not anticipated or rendered unpatentable by Wang.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

¹ While the Office Action Summary listed claim 13 as being rejected, the body of the Office Action on pages 2-3 did not list claim 13 under any rejection, nor discuss claim 13. Thus, claim 13 is presumed to be allowable.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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